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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by the guest Chaplain, Maj. Tom Sillanpa of the Salvation Army.

We are pleased to have you with us.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Maj. Tom Sillanpa, Salvation Army, Westfield, IN, offered the following prayer:

O righteous Father and merciful God of hope, we would pause and ponder Thy Word from the psalmist: "Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other."—Psalm 85:10. O Lord, Your covenant love and justice, our faithfulness and heart's repose, happily bless and unite Your people. It is the answer of hope, a message of peace and salvation, certain when God and men meet upon this terrestrial plain. We see an upright beam upholding Thy law. Ah! yet another, a horizontal beam picturing Thy loving-kindness—outstretched arms of mercy which would embrace the whole world. O Father, grant Thy well-being to our dear Senators serving Thee in righteousness. It exalts our Nation and brings glory to Thy name. Continue to mold a godly character in us all as we face the future unafraid and show unexpected strength and vision. For evil shall perish and righteousness shall reign in God's own good time as surely as the morning cometh. We pray in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Good morning, Mr. President. Thank you very much.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, today there will be a period for morning business until the hour of 10 a.m. with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each with Senator HATCH permitted to speak for up to 15 minutes.

At 10 a.m. the Senate will resume consideration of Calendar No. 361, which is S. 1664, the immigration bill. Amendments are pending now to the immigration bill. Therefore, rollcall votes can be anticipated on that measure during today's session.

We may receive a short-term continuing resolution also from the House today. It is expected that the Senate would consider that appropriations matter when it is received.

The Senate may also consider any other legislation that can be cleared for action.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. ROTH addressed the Chair.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m. with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

### RUSSIAN AGRICULTURAL IMPORT QUOTAS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, there are few things more disappointing and disturbing than broken promises. Despite repeated assurances from Russian officials that they sincerely desire to fully abide by the principals of free and fair trade, they are once again considering barriers against the import of agricultural products.

I have to add that there are few things more worrisome than to have

our President visit Russia and tell us everything is OK when it is not. And this appears to be the case when it comes to United States-Russian trade relations.

Yesterday, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Zaverukha announced his Government's plans to introduce food import quotas that will focus primarily on poultry purchases, the vast majority of which come from the United States. The Deputy Prime Minister himself even emphasized that it is American poultry products against which these import quotas are directed.

This is particularly outrageous in light of Russian Prime Minister's Chernomyrdin's assurances to Vice President GORE that Moscow was going to back away from unfair trade practices that the Prime Minister announced last February against agricultural imports into Russia.

Russia's new effort to restrict the import of American poultry products should not surprise us. For the last 6 months Moscow has persistently been trying to ban the import of American poultry products. First, they tried to impose a bogus health ban. When it became clear that could not fly, they have been trying to increase tariffs against our poultry products. Now, they are talking about import quotas.

A decision by Moscow to impose import quotas, higher tariffs, or any other sanctions against American agricultural products would be most unfortunate. This is particularly true in the case of poultry. The amazing growth of in our chicken sales in Russia over the past 5 years demonstrates that Russian consumers recognize the quality and reasonable price of United States poultry. Needless to say, import quotas will only end up hurting United States poultry producers, Russian consumers, and the United States-Russian trade relationship.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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